

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4046

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 6162

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MLAT, PFOR, UNGA, TS

SUBJECT: GOT FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTY'S REPLY TO SECRETARY'S
LETTER ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO

REF: STATE 188801, TUNIS 5410, TUNIS 6161

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY PROVIDED US WITH INFORMATION COPY
OF FOREIGN MINISTER HABIB CHATTY'S REPLY TO THE
SECRETARY'S LETTER ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO (STATE 188801).
FOLLOWING FOR DEPARTMENT'S ADVANCE INFORMATION IS
EMBASSY'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF LETTER: (NOTE:
CHATTY'S LETTER WILL BE CARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY
AMB. HEDDA FOR DELIVERY BUT WILL CONTAIN NEW WORDING
TO CORRECT ERROR IN LAST SENTENCE PARA TWO OF FOLLOWING
TEXT AND WILL PROMISE TUNISIAN VOTE IN FAVOR OF POST-
PONEMENT, RATHER THAN ABSTENTION. (SEE TUNIS 6161).

"DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

I RECEIVED WITH GREAT PLEASURE THE LETTER YOU SO KINDLY
SENT ME THROUGH HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR MULCAHY, AND
WHICH DEALS MAINLY WITH THE QUESTION OF
PUERTO RICO AND THE SITUATION BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS.

"CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO, AS YOU ARE
SURELY AWARE, OUR DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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RECEIVED LAST YEAR INSTRUCTIONS TO ACT WITH A VIEW

TO ADJOURNING THE DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE WITHIN THE COMMITTEE OF THE 24. TUNISIA'S ABSTENTION WAS DECISIVE IN THE BALANCE IN FAVOR OF THE ADJOURNMENT.

"AFTER EXAMINING CAREFULLY THE U.S.

VIEWPOINT ON THIS QUESTION, OUR DELEGATION WILL PROBABLY ADOPT THE SAME ATTITUDE AS LAST YEAR, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND COLLABORATION WHICH PREVAILS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

"REGARDING THE QUESTION OF THE TWO KOREAS, TUNISIA HAS ALWAYS ADOPTED AN ATTITUDE CHARACTERIZED BY MODERATION AND COMMON SENSE. THE SEARCH FOR DIALOGUE AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES THROUGH PEACEFUL NEGOTIATION HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE A PERMANENT AND BASIC PRINCIPLE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY. WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS AND VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE REAL DANGERS THAT RISK PRODUCING A CONFRONTATION, THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHICH WOULD BE INCALCULABLE.

"APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE TUNISIAN DELEGATION TO WORK WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION TOWARDS AN ARRANGEMENT AND A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS IN ORDER TO REACH A PERMANENT PEACE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD SPARE OUR WORLD A SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL TENSION.

"MR. SECRETARY AND DEAR FRIEND, I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOU MY PLEASURE TO PROCEED WITH YOU IN THIS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF THE FORTH-COMING SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND TO RECONFIRM THE ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE FULLY PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF A LONG TRADITION OF FRIENDSHIP AND ESTEEM BASED ON THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR TWO PEOPLES AND OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

"PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. SECRETARY AND DEAR FRIEND, THE EXPRESSION OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.
SINCERELY YOURS, HABIB CHATTY."

MULCAHY

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